

CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

MEETING OF : STANDARDS COMMITTEE **ITEM: 2**
DATE : 29 JUNE 2011
REPORT OF : DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE
PLANNING
AUTHOR : DARREN GRIFFITHS/CHRIS ASTALL

**SUBJECT : THE CODE OF CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE 2007 – ACTION PLAN
SUMMARY PROGRESS REPORT**

Summary

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide a summary of progress against identified actions following the adoption of the 2007 Code of Corporate Governance.

Recommended That:

- [1] Members note progress on core principles 1-3 of the 2007 Code of Corporate Governance action plan and that any specific issues of concern are identified.

Background

2. Proper governance helps to ensure that the Service is doing the right things in the right way in a timely and accountable manner. It comprises of the systems, processes, culture & values by which the Service is led and controlled.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting (CIPFA)/SOLACE revised 2007 Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government* sets out the six core principles on which effective Governance should be built.

- Focusing on the purpose of Authority & outcomes for community and creating & implementing local vision.
- Members and Officers working together to achieve a common purpose with clearly defined functions and roles
- Promoting values and demonstrating the values of good governance through high standards of conduct and behaviour

- Taking informed and transparent decisions which are subject to effective scrutiny and challenge
 - Developing the capacity and capability of Members and Officers to be effective
 - Engaging with local communities and stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability
- 3 The revised 2007 Code places increased emphasis on Member and Stakeholder engagement, together with the value that structure, process and policy brings to targeting service delivery and enhancing community outcomes.
 - 4 Following the Authority's adoption of the revised 2007 Code of Corporate Governance framework a gap analysis of our current arrangements was undertaken and a revised action plan was developed.
 - 5 This work has identified areas for improvement/best practice within the Service, and each area of best practice has been assigned to a Manager responsible for monitoring the areas of improvements to ensure compliance with the Code.

Impact Assessment:

Financial, Equality and Diversity and Environmental

This report represents a summary of a number of actions that contribute towards the Authority's compliance with the 2007 Code of Corporate Governance. Where appropriate, each action is individually assessed by the relevant Manager(s)

Legal

Compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance & CIPFA/SOLACE framework helps the Authority meet its corporate governance obligations.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Corporate Governance Action Plan themes 1-3 (attached)